

## The Raman spectra of antimony sulfochloride and antimony sulfobromide

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Received 5 February 1997, accepted 19 May 1997

**Abstract** : Thiohalides of structure  $SbSX$  where  $X$  is  $Cl$  or  $Br$  can be treated as a bent  $XYZ$  type molecule belonging to  $C_s$  symmetry. The molecules have  $3a'$  modes of vibration with all of them being infrared and Raman active. A complete vibrational assignment of the Raman spectra of  $SbSbCl$  and  $SbSbBr$  were made. The force constants, vibrational mean square amplitudes and vibrational mean amplitudes for the two molecules are presented for the first time.

**Keywords** : Raman spectra, thiohalides, molecular constants

**PACS Nos.** : 33.20.Ea, 33.20.Fb, 33.20.Tp

### 1. Introduction

There are twelve compounds of metal thiohalides with structure  $ABX$  where  $A$  is  $Sb$  or  $Bi$ ,  $B$  is  $S$  or  $Se$  and  $X$  is  $Cl$ ,  $Br$ , or  $I$ . All of these compounds have been prepared and except  $BiSeCl$  all the compounds are isostructural. The preparation of these compounds is described by Donges [1,2]. The structure of  $SbSbBr$  [3] consists of pleated chains of  $Sb$  and  $S$  atoms between which lie  $Br^-$  ions as shown in Figure 1. An arrangement of this type is found in a number of oxides  $M_2O_3$  and sulphides  $M_2S_3$  and is closely related to the chain in  $Sb_2S_3$ . Each  $Sb$  atom has one  $S$  atom at  $2.49 \text{ \AA}$  and two  $S$  atoms at  $2.67 \text{ \AA}$ . Each  $S$  atom is similarly bonded to three  $Sb$  atoms. The bond angles around  $Sb$  are  $84.1$  and  $96.3$  [4]. The nearest neighbours of  $Br^-$  ions are two  $Sb$  atoms at  $2.94 \text{ \AA}$  and one  $S$  atom at  $3.46 \text{ \AA}$ . The structure of  $SbSX$  where  $X$  is  $Cl$  or  $Br$  is treated as  $XYZ$  type belonging to  $C_s$  symmetry and shown in Figure 2. The three fundamental modes of vibration are the  $Sb-S$  stretching,  $Sb-X$  stretching and the  $S-Sb-X$  bending all belonging to  $a'$  species.

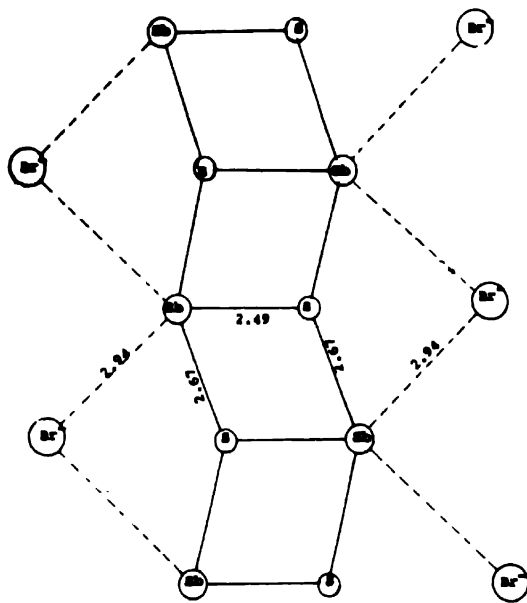


Figure 1. Structure of antimony sulfobromide.

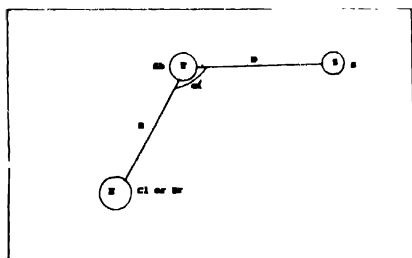


Figure 2. Geometrical configuration of the XYZ type of molecule.

## 2. Experimental

The Raman spectra of SbSCl and SbSBr recorded in the range  $1300\text{--}50\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is presented in Figures 3 and 4 respectively. The sampling technique was KBr pellet. The probable assignments for SbSCl is in Table 1 and that of SbSBr in Table 2.

## 3. Result and discussion

### 3.1. Assignments :

The complete vibrational assignment of the three fundamentals, their potential energy distribution (P.E.D.) and overtone/combination for SbSCl and SbSBr is presented in Table 1 and Table 2 respectively. The Sb-S stretching frequency ( $\nu_1$ ) is assigned to  $710\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for SbSBr and to  $719\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for SbSCl both having a P.E.D. of 100 percent.

In  $\text{SbCl}_3$  and  $\text{SbBr}_3$  [5,6], the  $\text{Sb-Cl}$  stretching is assigned to a frequency at  $376\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $\text{Sb-Br}$  stretching to  $248\text{--}222\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . In  $\text{SbSBr}$ , the  $\nu_2$  stretching frequency corresponding to  $\text{Sb-Br}$  is assigned to  $225\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and in  $\text{SbSCl}$ , it is assigned to  $319\text{ cm}^{-1}$  each having a P.E.D.

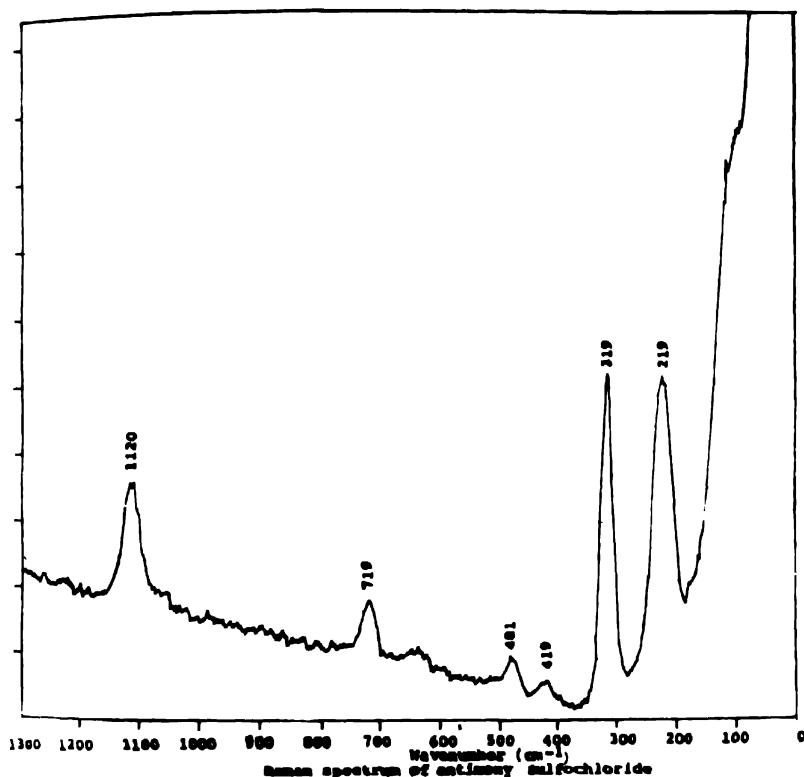


Figure 3. Raman spectrum of antimony sulfochloride

of 100 percent. In  $\text{SbSBr}$ , the  $\nu_3$  frequency is at  $148\text{ cm}^{-1}$  with P.E.D. 93% and  $219\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{SbSCl}$  with P.E.D. 98%. In the Raman spectrum of  $\text{SbSBr}$ , the absorption at  $186\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is a bending fundamental mode due to the conformation of the molecule. In the crystal structure of  $\text{SbSBr}$  [4], there are two bond angles around Sb atom indicating a change in structure or conformation of the molecule. Such conformational behaviour is exhibited in the structure of disulfur halides ( $\text{S}_2\text{X}_2$ ) viz. disulfur chloride and disulfur bromide [7,8] and in alkyl monohalides belonging to  $C_s$  point group of symmetry which have two  $\text{CCX}$  deformation fundamentals. In the Raman spectrum of  $\text{S}_2\text{Br}_2$ , there are two fundamentals corresponding to the angle of deformation  $\text{SSBr}$  at  $170\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $199\text{ cm}^{-1}$  occurring with high intensity [7] which accounts for the high intensity bending fundamentals seen in the spectrum of  $\text{SbSBr}$ . The low frequency absorption of high intensity at about  $75\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in

the spectrum of SbSBr can be assigned to the torsional vibration of the molecule. This assignment agrees with the assignment in  $S_2Br_2$  where the torsional mode is placed at

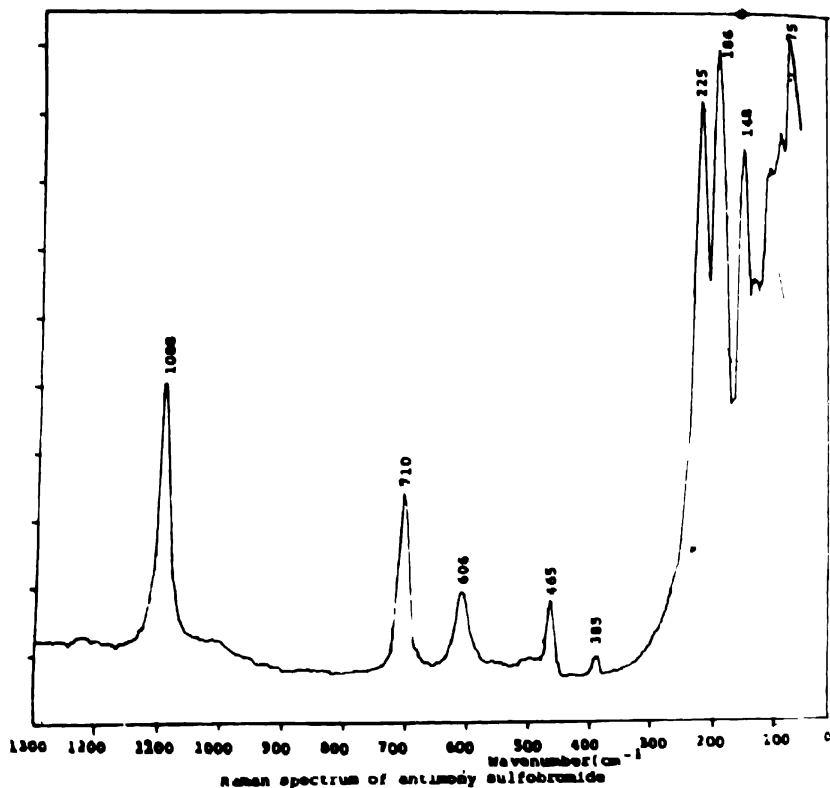


Figure 4. Raman spectrum of antimony sulfobromide

$70\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and in  $S_2Cl_2$  at  $102\text{ cm}^{-1}$  occurring with high intensity comparable with the symmetric bending deformation vibration [8].

Table 1. Vibrational assignment of antimony sulfochloride.

Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Assignment
1120	$2 \times 719 - 319$ (FR)
719	Sb-S stretching ( $\nu_1$ )
481	$719 - 219$
419	$719 - 319$
319	Sb-Cl stretching ( $\nu_2$ )
219	S-Sb-Cl bending ( $\nu_3$ )

FR - Fermi resonance

Table 2. Vibrational assignment of antimony sulfobromide

Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	Assignment
1088	$710 + 225 + 148$
710	Sb-S stretching ( $\nu_1$ )
606	$2 \times 225 + 148$ (FR)
465	$710 - 225$
385	$225 + 148$
225	Sb-Br stretching ( $\nu_2$ )
186	S-Sb-Br bending
148	S-Sb-Br bending ( $\nu_3$ )
75	Torsion

FR - Fermi resonance

In the Raman spectrum of SbSBr and SbSCl, no overtone band is present but a combination of overtone with the fundamental is seen and having higher intensity than the stretching fundamental vibration. The  $1120 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  band in SbSCl and the  $606 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  band in SbSBr are suspected to be Fermi resonance (FR) type interactions. The  $1120 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  band in SbSCl shows a fine split in its peak position while the  $606 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  band in SbSBr occurs close to the stretching fundamental frequency ( $\nu_1$ ). The other remaining bands were a combination of the fundamentals.

### 3.2 Molecular constants :

Many molecules of the type XYZ belonging to  $C_s$  symmetry has been investigated by previous workers [9-14]. The force constants for the molecules were calculated by solving Wilson's secular equation [15] using the kinetic constant method. Molecular kinetic constants are the vibrational inertia coefficients involved in Wilson's expressions for the kinetic energy relating to molecular vibrations given by  $2T = \dot{S}' G^{-1} \dot{S}$ , where  $G^{-1} = K$ . The elements of the matrix  $K$  are the kinetic constants. The symmetric kinetic constants are related to the symmetric force constants through the expression

$$\frac{F_{ij}}{F_{jj}} = \frac{K_{ij}}{K_{jj}} \quad (i < j)$$

The force constants calculated for SbSCl and SbSBr is summarised in Table 3. The Sb-Br force constant is 1.424 and is in good agreement with the force constant of trihalides  $\text{SbBr}_3$  where it is  $1.51 \text{ mdyne/\AA}$  [16] and is usually in the range  $1.34 - 1.69 \text{ mdyne/\AA}$  [5]. In SbSCl the Sb-Cl force constant is 1.63 and is around 2.0 in  $\text{SbCl}_3$  [6]. Venkateswarlu [17] has calculated the Sb-Cl force constant in  $\text{SbCl}_3$  to be 1.78. The Sb-S stretching force constant is 7.53 in SbSBr and 7.68 in SbSCl. All the interaction constants are within range. Using the symmetrized vibrational mean square amplitudes,  $\Sigma$ -matrix  $\Sigma = L\Delta L'$  where  $L$  is the transformation matrix from normal co-ordinates to symmetry co-ordinates and  $\Delta = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 c \nu_i} \coth(hc\nu_i/2kT)$ . The bonded valence vibrational mean square amplitudes

for SbSCl and SbSBr is given in Table 4. The vibrational mean amplitudes both bonded and non-bonded for the two molecules were calculated.

Table 3. Force constants in SbSBr and SbSCl ( $10^{-2}$  N/m).

Force constant	SbSBr	SbSCl
$f_D$	7.526	7.676
$f_R$	1.424	1.630
$f_\alpha$	0.216	0.371
$f_{DR}$	0.022	0.034
$f_{D\alpha}$	0.018	0.038
$f_{R\alpha}$	0.052	0.045

Table 4. Vibrational mean square amplitudes ( $10^{-3}$  Å<sup>2</sup>) and mean amplitudes ( $10^{-2}$  Å) of SbSBr and SbSCl.

Mean square amplitudes	SbSBr	SbSCl
$\sigma_D$	1.0882	1.0745
$\sigma_R$	3.1900	3.0467
$\sigma_\alpha$	0.3109	0.2202
$\sigma_{DR}$	-0.0237	-0.0234
$\sigma_{D\alpha}$	-0.0274	-0.0295
$\sigma_{R\alpha}$	-0.1703	-0.0947
Mean amplitudes		
$U_{XY}$	5.6483	5.5197
$U_{YZ}$	3.2987	3.2779
$U_{(X \ Z)}$	10.0140	8.9534

#### 4. Conclusion

There is limited literature on structure and spectroscopic details of metal thiohalides of type ABX where A is Sb or Bi, B is S or Se and X is Cl, Br or I. A complete vibrational assignment of the Raman spectra for SbSCl and SbSBr has been done assuming  $C_s$  symmetry point group. The correctness of the assignment was checked by calculating the P.E.D. using the force constants for the frequencies assigned. A complete set of potential force constants for the two molecules is presented. The mean square amplitudes and mean amplitudes of vibration for the two molecules were evaluated and their values are within acceptable range.

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